



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/662,989	09/15/2003	Steve Tentler	34586.22	2252
32300	7590	06/07/2006	EXAMINER	
<b>BRIGGS AND MORGAN P.A.</b> 2200 IDS CENTER 80 SOUTH 8TH ST MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402				RICCI, JOHN A
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		3711		

DATE MAILED: 06/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Offic Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/662,989	TENTLER, STEVE	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	John Ricci	3711	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 April 2006.  
 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-21 and 23-27 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 15 and 17-21 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) 16 and 23-27 is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
 2)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
 3)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
 4)  Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 5)  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
 6)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

Upon further consideration, the indicated allowability of some claims has been withdrawn.

\* \* \* \* \*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Summers et al 5,937,841 in view of Hickman 2,394,856.

Summers shows a bow string release having an attached strap. However, it is not clear if the strap has a padded layer, and a substantially non-stretchable layer. One would be aware that a padded layer would be desirable for comfort, and a non-stretchable layer would be desirable to increase accuracy. For example, Hickman shows that a wrist strap may include two layers of material such as leather; leather would be considered soft padded material; and may

be "substantially" non-stretchable; "substantially" is a broad term that does not clearly define the characteristics of the material. Since one would recognize that the strap of a bow string release would be desirable if it is padded and substantially non-stretchable, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the strap of Hickman with the release of Summers.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 17-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Summers et al 5,937,841.

Summers shows a strap for a bow string release having a buckle 16 with a pin at the first end, and a series of holes 14 to receive the pin at a second end. When the pin is engaged with the middle hole, the strap is considered to

be in a "semi-closed" relationship; the first end may be removed from the second end. Note that the claims are given the broadest reasonable interpretation, and description in the specification is not read into the claims.

\* \* \* \* \*

Claims 1-14 are allowed.

Claims 16 & 23-27 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

\* \* \* \* \*

This letter was prepared by Examiner John Ricci, who can be reached at:

Voice: 571-272-4429

Fax: Use 571-273-8300 for papers to be delivered directly to the mail room, like formal amendments and responses, change of address, power of attorney, petitions.

Application/Control Number:  
10/662,989  
Art Unit: 3711

Page 5

Use 703-783-0439 for papers to be delivered directly to the Examiner, like informal or proposed responses for discussion, or notes in preparation for an interview.

*Response by Fax is encouraged to reduce mail processing time. Please don't send duplicate papers by mail and Fax.*

PTO main switchboard: 800-786-9199.

Visit our Web site at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov).

*John Ricci*  
**JOHN RICCI**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**  
**ART UNIT 3711**